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1. A semiconductor structure comprising:
- an insulator layer;
 - a conductive plug positioned within said insulator layer;
 - an etch-stop layer located on said insulator layer and surrounding said plug;
 - a non-conductive layer having an etched via at least partially over said conductive plug; and
 - a conductive connector formed in said via in electrical contact with said plug.
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2. The semiconductor structure of claim 1, wherein said conductive connector comprises:
- a first conductive layer deposited in and in contact with said etched via, said first conductive layer including a portion in contact with said conductive plug; and
 - a second conductive layer deposited over said first conductive layer.
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3. The semiconductor structure of claim 1, wherein said etch-stop layer comprises silicon nitride.
- E1
4. The semiconductor structure of claim 1, wherein said etch-stop layer comprises silicon carbide.
5. The semiconductor structure of claim 1, wherein said etch-stop layer comprises silicon dioxide.
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6. The semiconductor structure of claim 1, wherein said etch-stop layer comprises silicon nitride and silicon carbide.

7. The semiconductor structure of claim 1, wherein said non-conductive layer comprises doped silicate glass.

E1

8. The semiconductor structure of claim 7, wherein said doped silicate glass comprises borophosphosilicate glass.

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9. The semiconductor structure of claim 2, wherein said first conductive layer comprises one or more materials selected from the group consisting of aluminum, copper, doped polysilicate, tantalum, tantalum nitride, titanium, titanium nitride and tungsten.

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10. The semiconductor structure of claim 1, further comprising a substrate with a connection region, wherein said conductive plug is provided over said connection region.

11. A semiconductor device comprising:
at least one memory cell comprising:

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an active region in a substrate;
a conductive plug positioned within an insulator layer and provided on said active region, said conductive plug being in contact with said active region;
an etch-stop layer deposited on said insulator and around said conductive plug;
an intermediate non-conductive layer provided over said etch stop layer and having an etched via over said plug; and
at least one conductive layer in said via in electrical connection with said plug.

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12. The semiconductor memory device of claim 11, wherein said at least one conductive layer comprises:

a first conductive layer formed in said etched via, said first conductive layer including a portion in contact with said conductive plug; and

5 a second conductive layer deposited over and in contact with said first conductive layer.

13. The semiconductor memory device of claim 11, wherein said intermediate layer comprises doped silicate glass.

14. The semiconductor memory device of claim 13, wherein said doped silicate glass comprises borophosphosilicate glass.

15. The semiconductor memory device of claim 12, wherein said first conductive layer comprises one or more materials selected from the group consisting of aluminum, copper, doped polysilicate, tantalum, tantalum nitride, titanium, titanium nitride and tungsten.

16. The semiconductor memory device of claim 12, wherein said second conductive layer comprises one or more materials selected from the group consisting of aluminum, copper, doped polysilicate, titanium, titanium nitride and tungsten.

17. The semiconductor memory device of claim 11, further comprising an array of said memory cells.

18. A semiconductor device comprising:
a conductive element;

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an etch-resistant layer surrounding an upper portion of said conductive element;
a non-conductive layer over said etch resistant layer and having a via over said
conductive element, said via extending down to a level of said conductive element and
etch resistant layer; and
5 a conductive material located in said via, wherein said conductive material
contacts said conductive element.

19. The semiconductor device of claim 18, further comprising a doped region
connected to said conductive element.

20. The semiconductor device of claim 18, wherein said non-conductive layer
10 comprises doped silicate glass.

21. The semiconductor device of claim 20, wherein said doped silicate glass
comprises borophosphosilicate glass.

22. The semiconductor device of claim 18, wherein said conductive material
comprises one or more materials selected from the group consisting of aluminum,
15 copper, doped polysilicate, tantalum, tantalum nitride, titanium, titanium nitride and
tungsten.

23. The semiconductor device of claim 18, further comprising a conductive layer
located in said via.

24. The semiconductor device of claim 18, further comprising a connection region,
20 wherein said conductive material is located over said connection region.

25. A processor-based system comprising:

a processing unit;

a semiconductor circuit coupled to said processing unit, said semiconductor circuit comprising:

a substrate supporting a connection region;

a conductive plug positioned within an insulator and provided on said connection region;

an etch-stop layer deposited on said insulator, said etch-stop layer being at the same level as a top portion of said conductive plug;

an intermediate non-conductive layer provided over said etch-stop layer and having an etched via over said conductive plug; and

a conductive connector electrically coupled to said connection region, said conductive connector comprising a first conductive layer deposited in and in contact with said etched via, said first conductive layer including a portion in contact with said conductive plug.

26. The processor-based system of claim 25, wherein said conducting connector further comprises a second conductive layer deposited over said first conductive layer, a semiconductor die being electrically connected to said conductive connector.

27. The processor-based system of claim 26, wherein said connection region comprises a doped region within said substrate.

28. The processor-based system of claim 26, wherein said intermediate layer comprises doped silicate glass.

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29. The processor-based system of claim 28, wherein said doped silicate glass comprises borophosphosilicate glass.

30. The processor-based system of claim 26, wherein said first conductive layer comprises at least one layer of one or more materials selected from the group consisting of aluminum, copper, doped polysilicate, tantalum, tantalum nitride, titanium, titanium nitride and tungsten.

31. The processor-based system of claim 26, wherein said second conductive layer comprises at least one layer of one or more materials selected from the group consisting of aluminum, copper, doped polysilicate, tantalum, tantalum nitride, titanium, titanium nitride and tungsten.

32. The processor-based system of claim 26, further comprising a substrate, and wherein said connection region is located in said substrate, and wherein said conductive plug is located over said connection region.

33. A method of making a semiconductor device, said method comprising:
forming a layer of insulating material over a substrate;
forming a conductive plug within said first layer of insulating material;
forming an etch-stop layer over said first layer of insulating material and around said conductive plug;
forming a second layer of insulating material over said conductive plug and etch-stop layer;
etching said second layer of insulating material to said conductive plug and etch-stop layer to form a via.

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